JFK files

FBI investigated hundreds of persons in wake of assassination, records show

WASHINGTON (UPI) — More than 1,300 pages of the FBI documents relating to the assassination of John F. Kennedy are devoted to what might be called the "nut" file—apparently worthless leads investigated anyway.

There are one-page reports on hundreds of people, many of whom were overheard about the time of the assassination making some threatening remark like "Kennedy will get his."

The file includes such far-flung and unlikely suspects as a group of Jews in Winnipeg, Canada; the minister of the Church of the First-born of the Fullness of Times, and someone who signed a letter simply "Chicago housewife."

The FBI investigated a person who wanted to send a telegram to Andrei Gromyko; an anonymous telephone call the New York State Police got from Baton Rouge, La.; and an obscene letter sent to Marguerite Oswald, the assassin's mother, threatening "Us Nazis'll kill ya'."

One man called the FBI and said he had stopped at a gas station in Scottsdale, Ariz., six months after the assassination and in a telephone book in a phone booth found "John Wilks Booth" and "John F. Kennedy" written on the front page. The middle name of the killer of Abraham Lincoln had been spelled incorrectly.

The FBI found the telephone book. Under Booth's name was written "115 Death Row." Under Kennedy's was written PXJ 00050, Arlington Cemitery" — again an incorrect spelling.

After questioning the owner of the gas station, and other people the FBI concluded "no one had noticed any questionable persons in the telephone booth."

Lee Harvey Oswald sought job in radio

FBI records released today showed Lee Harvey Oswald may have tried to get a job as an Alice, Texas, radio announcer as he returned from Mexico two months before he killed John F. Kennedy in Dallas.

The report from the FBI office in Houston, dated Nov. 25, 1963, two days after the assassination, said two mangers at station KIPY recognized Oswald's picture and said he looked identical to a man who had stopped by the station and unsuccessfully sought work.

Laymon Stewart, the station general manager, and Robert Janca, the traffic manager, reported their visitor dropped into the south Texas station on a Friday afternoon—either Sept. 28 or Oct. 4—and "mentioned he had just come from Mexico."

"He made no previous appointment and had no previous communication with this station," the report said. "He inquired as to (a) job as radio announcer but no such job was available at this station and no background information (was) taken from him.

"This subject was unshaven, wore bluejeans, and possibly (a) sweatshirt and mentioned his wife who stayed in (the) car could speak no English."

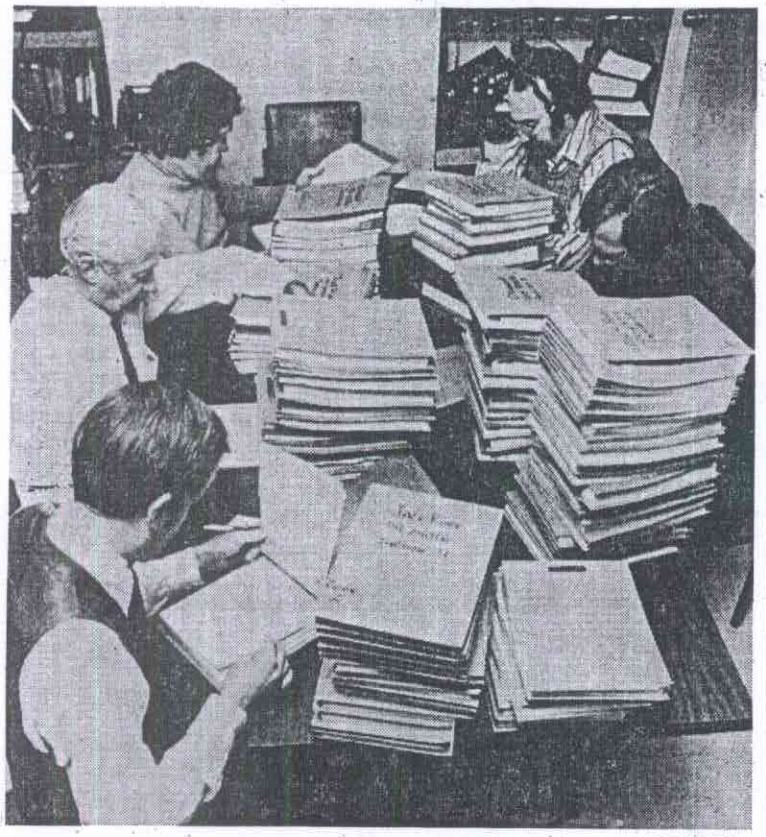
The report said there was a 2-year-old child in the front seat of the old-model car with the man and woman. It said the man asked about possible radio jobs in Pleasanton, Texas, and left Alice driving north.

Dallas targeted for IRA 'mayhem'

An anonymous caller told the FBI 10 days after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy that the outlawed Irish Republican Army planned sending "a company" to Dallas "to commit mayhem on that city."

The FBI's Los Angeles office sent an urgent Teletype message to Washington headquarters saying that a county detective captain had received the call from a man who said he had a brother in the IRA in Ireland.

"Caller said he received word



UPI Telephoto

Editors and reporters begin the tedious task of reading the 40,000 pages which make up the first half of the FBI report released today on the investigation of John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas 14 years ago. Another 40,000 pages will be released in January.

from a relative in Ireland infor - that the IRA will attempt to get company of IRA members into the United States via Air Lingus (Irish Airlines) and if unsuccessful by air, the members will arrive in the United States one by one for the purpose of going to Dallas, Texas, to commit mahem (sic) on that city."

The message said that the detective judged the caller "to be sane and well educated."

Ford suspected of 'leaking' data

FBI investigators looking into the source of leaks from the Warren Commission found chaotic record keeping within the commissson and five possible sources of one leak, including Gerald R. Ford, according to FBI documents released today.

Subsequently, the agency cleared Ford and no source of the leak was apparently ever pinpointed.

Investigators said they found "a complete lack of organization within the commission concerning the handling of records. There was found to be no document control whatever and no accountability for documents, classified or not."

The commission asked for the investigation on Sept. 10, 1964, after Oswald's diary, Ruby's lie detector test and Ruby's interview with Chief Justice Warren were all were leaked to the press.

Empty seats at the unveiling

When they opened the FBI files, not all that many people came to look.

About 25 people, mostly reporters and photographers, showed up at the J. Edgar Hoover building before the 9:30 a.m. opening. FBI officials ushered the group into a small classroom; there were open seats until almost 10 a.m.